From: Kelly, Joyce

To: R10-EPA Regional Mail Group: R10-Contractors

Subject: Park Place Drinking Water Update - July 25, 2014

**Date:** Friday, July 25, 2014 1:03:00 PM

## **Updates included in this message:**

• Latest drinking water sampling results are back.

- Opportunity for blood lead and copper testing at Federal Occupational Health (FOH) coming to an end.
- FOH blood lead and copper testing next steps.

## We have completed drinking water testing on our occupied floors.

On Thursday, July 3, 2014, EPA sampled the remaining drinking water sources on EPA-occupied floors in the Park Place building for lead and copper. Those sources included drinking fountains, sinks, hot water dispensers, and refrigerator water dispensers on all EPA-occupied floors which had not been previously sampled for both lead and copper.

The good news is that all of the sampling results have come back below the action levels for lead and all of the sampling results except for the 21<sup>st</sup> floor North drinking fountain have come back below the action levels for copper. The 21<sup>st</sup> floor North drinking fountain has been disconnected from the water supply and a sign has been posted.

All sources of drinking water in EPA occupied space have now been tested for lead and copper. The latest sampling results (titled July 14, 2014) are posted on the Park Place Building Drinking Water InfoPage.

Fixtures which have been tested for lead and copper and were found to be below the action levels include:

- All kitchen sinks, refrigerators, and hot water dispensers on all EPA-occupied floors. (All signs have been removed from fixtures which meet the action levels)
- Un-posted drinking water fountains on all EPA- occupied floors. (Signs will remain on fixtures that were above the action level for lead or copper until the fountain are removed)

Filtered drinking water is currently available from:

- Drinking fountains on the 20<sup>th</sup> floor, the 1<sup>st</sup> floor lobby, and in the Fitness Center.
- Refrigerator water dispensers on the 20th and 21st floors.

The filters in the new drinking water fountains use a combination of a pre-filter mesh to remove particulates, and activated carbon and ion exchange to remove contaminants, including lead and copper.

Washington Holdings (the landlord) is in the process of replacing the drinking fountains which previously tested above the action levels. Those drinking fountains have been disconnected from the water supply, have signs posted, and are expected to be removed, replaced, and tested within the next several weeks. Several of the fountains have already been removed. Based on the recent sampling results, EPA has also asked Washington Holding to remove and

replace the fountain on 21 North. We will provide an update on the status of the 21North fountain in the next update message.

Washington Holdings will continue to provide bottled water on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> floors until their fountains have been replaced because there are no other drinking fountains on those floors. Bottled water service to 16, 17, and 21 will be discontinued shortly.

Prior to moving onto the newly remodeled floors on 14, 15, and 19, Washington Holding will test the water and air per the lease agreement. Those results will also be posted on the InfoPage prior to EPA moving onto each floor. The testing and posting will be performed as each new floor is completed during the entire Park Place remodel.

## August 15 is the deadline to sign up for blood testing

Over 60 EPA employees have signed up for lead and copper blood testing at FOH. We expect results to be provided to those who have had their blood tested within ten days of testing. For testing, you must contact <u>Grady Maxwell</u> at 206-553-0241 or <u>maxwell.grady@epa.gov</u> to make arrangements at FOH prior to making an appointment. Because of FY14 funding commitments, you must make arrangements with Grady <u>by August 15</u> to receive free blood testing at FOH. Your appointment can be after that date, but you must sign up by August 15. If you have any questions, please <u>contact Grady</u> at the above number or email.

## FOH blood lead and copper testing next steps:

Once employees have received their results, we plan to invite a health professional to the Seattle office to provide information and answer questions. If you have any questions please contact <u>Grady Maxwell</u> at 206-553-0241 or <u>maxwell.grady@epa.gov</u> or <u>Mark Filippini</u> at 206-553-6327 or <u>filippini.mark@epa.gov</u>.

Joyce

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